Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing unauthorized recording of media content on ~~a Macintosh~~ an operating system comprising:

registering a compliance mechanism on a client system having said ~~Macintosh~~ operating system operating thereon, said compliance mechanism providing stand alone functionality and operation on said client system, said compliance mechanism comprising:

a framework for validating said compliance mechanism on said client system; and

a multimedia component opened by said framework, said multimedia component for decrypting said media content on said client system; and

preventing decryption of said media content on said client system having said ~~Macintosh~~ operating system operating thereon if a portion of said compliance mechanism is invalidated; and

utilizing said compliance mechanism to control an output of said media content by said multimedia component, said compliance mechanism diverting a commonly used data pathway output of said media component to a controlled data output pathway monitored by said compliance mechanism after said multimedia component begins to present said contents of said media content, said compliance mechanism utilized to stop or disrupt the playing of said media content at said controlled data output pathway when said playing of said media content is outside of a usage restriction applicable to said media file.

2. (previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising:

a valid kernel level extension providing kernel level driver information to said framework, wherein when an invalid kernel level extension is recognized said framework directs said valid kernel level extension to selectively restrict output of said media content.

3. (previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 2 wherein said valid kernel level extension matches no physical device on the client system.

4. (previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 2 wherein said valid kernel level extension comprises:

recognizing a kernel level recorder capturing an audio stream; and

informing said framework of said kernel level recorder.

5. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said framework will disable audio playback from the multimedia component until said components of the compliance mechanism are validated.

6. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said framework accesses a network to ensure that said components of the compliance mechanism are up to date.

7. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said framework establishes a monitoring thread which maintains a constant search for output devices.

8. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said compliance mechanism further comprises a bad boy list.

9. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said multimedia component is a media rendering or processing application.

10. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said media content is received from a source coupled with said client system, said source is from the group consisting of:

a network, a personal communication device, a satellite radio feed, a cable television radio input, a set-top box, an media device, a media storage device, a media storage device inserted in a media device player, a media player application, and a media recorder application.

11. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising altering said compliance mechanism in response to a change in a usage restriction, said usage restriction comprising a copyright restriction or licensing agreement applicable to said media content.

12. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer readable medium for storing computer implementable instructions, said instructions for causing a client system to perform a method for preventing unauthorized recording of media content on ~~a Macintosh~~ an operating system comprising:

registering a compliance mechanism on a client system having said ~~Macintosh~~ operating system operating thereon, said compliance mechanism providing stand alone functionality and operation on said client system, said compliance mechanism comprising:

a framework for validating components of said compliance mechanism on said client system;

a multimedia component opened by said framework, said multimedia component for preventing decryption of media content on said client system if said framework detects an invalid environment; and

a kernel level extension providing kernel level driver information to said framework;

disabling output of said media content on said client system having said ~~Macintosh~~ operating system operating thereon if a portion of said compliance mechanism is invalidated; and

utilizing said compliance mechanism to control an output of said media content by said multimedia component, said compliance mechanism diverting a commonly used data pathway output of said media component to a controlled data output pathway monitored by said compliance mechanism after said multimedia component begins to present said contents of said media content, said compliance mechanism utilized to stop or disrupt the playing of said media content at said controlled data output pathway when

said playing of said media content is outside of a usage restriction applicable to said media file.

13. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said instructions cause said client system to perform said method further comprising:

authorizing said client system to receive said media content.

14. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said kernel level extension matches no physical device.

15. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said kernel level extension comprises:

recognizing a kernel level recorder capturing an audio stream; and

informing said framework of said kernel level recorder.

16. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said framework will disable audio playback from the multimedia component until said components of the compliance mechanism are validated.

17. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said framework accesses a network to ensure that said components of the compliance mechanism are up to date.

18. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said framework establishes a monitoring thread which maintains a constant search for output devices.

19. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said multimedia component is a media rendering or processing application.

20. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said client system performs said method further comprising:

accessing an indicator corresponding to said media content for indicating to said compliance mechanism a usage restriction applicable to said media content.

21. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said client system performs said method further comprising:

altering said compliance mechanism in response to changes in said usage restriction, said usage restriction a copyright restriction or licensing agreement applicable to said media content.

22. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer readable medium of Claim 12 wherein said media content is from a source coupled with said client system, wherein said source is from the group consisting of:

a network, a personal communication device, a satellite radio feed, a cable television radio input, a set-top box, an media device, a media storage device, a media storage device inserted in a media device player, a media player application, and a media recorder application.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for preventing unauthorized recording of media content on ~~a Macintosh~~ an operating system comprising:

means for registering a compliance mechanism on a client system having said ~~Macintosh~~ operating system operating thereon, said compliance mechanism providing stand alone functionality and operation on said client system, said compliance mechanism comprising:

means for validating components of said compliance mechanism on said client system;

means for preventing decryption of media content on said client system if said framework detects an invalid environment; and

means for providing kernel level extension information to said framework; and

means for disabling output of said media content on said client system having said ~~Macintosh~~ operating system operating thereon if a portion of said compliance mechanism is invalidated; and

a means for utilizing said compliance mechanism to control an output of said media content by said multimedia component, said means diverting a commonly used data pathway output of said media component to a controlled data output pathway monitored by said compliance mechanism after said multimedia component begins to present said contents of said media content, said compliance mechanism utilized to stop or disrupt the playing of said media content at said controlled data output pathway when said playing of said media content is outside of a usage restriction applicable to said media file.

24. (original) The system as recited in Claim 23 further comprising:

means for authorizing said client system to receive said media content.

25. (original) The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said kernel level extension comprises:

means for recognizing a kernel level recorder capturing an audio stream; and

means for informing said framework of said kernel level recorder.

26. (original) The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said framework further comprises:

means for disabling audio playback from the multimedia component until said components of the compliance mechanism are validated.

27. (original) The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said framework further comprises:

means for accessing a network to ensure that said components of the compliance mechanism are up to date.

28. (original) The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said framework further comprises:

means for maintaining a constant search for output devices.

29. (original) The system as recited in Claim 23 further comprising:

means for accessing an indicator for indicating to said compliance mechanism said usage restriction applicable to said media content, said indicator attached to said media content.

30. (original) The system as recited in Claim 23 further comprising:

means for altering said compliance mechanism in response to changes in said usage restriction, said usage restriction a copyright restriction or licensing agreement applicable to said media content.

31. (original) The system as recited in Claim 23 wherein said media content is from a source coupled with said client system, wherein said source is from the group consisting of:

a network, a personal communication device, a satellite radio feed, a cable television radio input, a set-top box, an media device, a media storage device, a media storage device inserted in a media device player, a media player application, and a media recorder application.